## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

## Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for enabling secure communication between a client on an open network and a server apparatus on a secure network, the method performed on an intermediary apparatus coupled to the secure network and the open network, comprising:

negotiating a secure communications session with the client apparatus via the open network;

negotiating an open communications session with the server via the secure network; receiving encrypted packet application data for a security record spanning multiple data packets, wherein the security record has having a length greater than a packet length associated with the via multiple data packets;

decrypting the encrypted packet application data in each data packet;
forwarding decrypted, unauthenticated application data to the server via the secure
network;

discarding at least a portion of the decrypted, unauthenticated packet application data for the security record prior to receiving a final packet of the security record; and authenticating the decrypted packet data the security record on receipt of the a final packet of the security record segment.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said step of forwarding includes:

forwarding data which spans over multiple TCP segments.

Claim 3 Cancelled.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1[[2]]

wherein said a remaining portion of the packet application data for the security record is buffered as for a minimal length sufficient to complete a block cipher used to encrypt the data.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1[[2]] wherein said step of forwarding authenticating includes authenticating the decrypted data for the security record upon receiving after a final TCP segment of a multi-segment encrypted data stream and after forwarding the decrypted, unauthenticated application data received prior to the final TCP segment is received.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1[[5]] further including, the step of after forwarding the decrypted, unauthenticated application data to the server, notifying the client apparatus if a failure in said step of authenticating the security record occurs.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A method for processing encrypted data transferred between a first system and a second system, comprising:

providing an accelerator device including a decryption engine in communication with the first system via an open network and the second system via a secure network;

receiving encrypted data from the first system via the open network in the form of application data spanning multiple packets, each packet having a packet length and wherein a last packet of the multiple packets includes information for authenticating the application data;

decrypting ones of said the application data contained within the multiple packets as said the multiple packets are received;

forwarding the decrypted application data as said the multiple packets are decrypted to the second device via the secure network;

buffering a portion of the decrypted application data and discarding a remaining portion; and

authenticating the <u>application</u> data when said-the information for authenticating the <u>application</u> data is received in the a last of the said multiple packets.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 7 wherein said step of receiving comprises receiving SSL encrypted data.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 7 wherein said step of decrypting comprises decrypting application data encrypted using SSL and a DES algorithm.

Claims 10-11 Cancelled.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 7[[11]] wherein said step of buffering comprises buffering the application data for a minimal length sufficient to perform complete a block cipher used to encrypt the data.

Claim 13 (Original): The method of claim 12 wherein said block cipher is a form of DES.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 7 wherein said step of authenticating includes alerting the first device if said step of authenticating fails after forwarding the decrypted, unauthenticated application data that is received prior to the last one of the multiple packets.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 7 wherein said step of authenticating includes generating a reset to the second device is if said step of authenticating fails.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A method of providing secure communications using limited buffer memory in <u>a an secure sockets layer processing device</u>, comprising:

receiving <del>SSL</del> encrypted data having a length greater than a TCP segment carrying said data;

buffering the SSL encrypted data in a memory buffer in the SSL accelerator device, the buffer having a length equivalent to a the block cipher size necessary to perform the cipher;

decrypting the buffered segment of the received <del>SSL</del> encrypted data to provide decrypted application data; and

forwarding the decrypted application data to a destination device.

Claim 17 (Original): The method of claim 16 wherein the block cipher is 3DES.

Claim 18 (Original): The method of claim 16 wherein the block cipher is DES.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 16 further including the step of authenticating the data on receipt of a final segment of the encrypted data after forwarding the unauthenticated application data that is received prior to the final segment.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 19 further including the steps of generating an alert if said step of authenticating results in a failure.